

Lehman Brothers was founded in 2012 and runned in accordance with financial discretion, a variety of changing artists and intransparency of subjectivities.

The starting point for the group's work is the takeover of the name: Lehman Brothers. In the projects of the group, the investment bank and the deregulated capitalism are processed through a simulacrum of sorts, taking on everything from economics, raw power, desire, subjectivity, concepts and limits; as seen both within the artistic and the economic field.

LEHMAN BROTHERS

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Lehman Brothers – *Wolfram Minding*

Since 1951 and again in 2024, Wolfram is mined in Korea Republic for use in semiconductors, missiles and mining drill heads due to its hardness and density. Yeontan is a coal briquette, introduced by the Japanese invaders in 1910 as a common household fuel. Today it is burned to heat up only the poorest homes in Korea, the smoke being so poisonous that it can be used for suicide as well.

Meanwhile camping culture has become a luxury leisure much similar to the present prep-culture, while Burberry until 2018 has burned off their surplus collection at the end of each season to keep their price level.

These facts all sum up acute paradoxes of the present, here expressed through material matters of fact. Observing these ambivalences, the crow hovers in the air, keeping an eye on both the pitch black of yeontan and the bright shine of Wolfram.

Where Gestures Sing, Open Studios, MMCA Changdong, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea Republic 2024.



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LEHMAN BROTHERS

Lehman Brothers - Monster Energy,
14,8x21, support to NGO Zaher Lebanon
13.-15. dec 2020.
Kurateret af Anna Sofie Mathiasen
Galleri Tom Christoffersen, Copenhagen

<https://kunsten.nu/artguide/calendar/148-x-21-2020/>

LEHMAN BROTHERS
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www.lehmanbros.net

Monster Energy Company
1 Monster Way
Corona, California 92879
United States

Copenhagen 20.10.2020

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please allow us to introduce ourselves, and explain you the purpose with this somewhat unorthodox request. We are an artist group named Lehman Brothers, and for a while we have been researching the link between the whaling business and the mining industry, more specifically the odd connection between *Moby Dick*, the famous novel from 1851 by Herman Melville, and titanium extraction in the Atacama Desert, Chile.

Leaving aside titanium for a moment, we have, among other things, discovered that Melville's Moby Dick was in fact inspired by a lesser known cetacean called Mocha Dick, which roamed the Pacific Ocean off the central coast of Chile in the early 19th century. Mocha, a bull whale "white as wool" survived several close encounters with whaling ships until he was eventually killed in 1838. His body was 70 feet long and yielded 100 barrels of oil, along with ambergris — a substance used in the making of perfumes and at that time worth more per ounce than gold. He also had nineteen harpoons in his body.

You may be aware of the sad fact that the practice of whale hunting has driven these magnificent creatures close to extinction throughout the last 400 years. The whaling industry was probably only sustainable for the first few decades of the 17th century; the stock had collapsed well before 1850, when Melville published his seminal book. Now, after centuries of exploitation, we are determined to catch up with this accelerating ecological crisis by speeding the whales up a bit — in the most literal sense. Lehman Brothers wants to help nature's most vulnerable creatures, and we would like to ask you to join our cause. We call it "A Drop in the Ocean."

We are asking Monster Energy Drink for a donation, so we can assist the whales of the Pacific get in better shape. We want to see them *faster and more furious* if you will, and to this end we request 10.000 liters of pure *Monster Energy Drink Classic* to pour directly into the ocean outside of Mocha Island, right in the middle of their breeding territory. We believe that all parties involved, human and non-human, will benefit from this donation. Monster Energy Company will certainly benefit in terms of building a more sustainable reputation, as a part of your green marketing strategy. We could also, for the sake of the pun, call it a sponsor-*ship*.

We hereby hope that Monster Energy Company will make the requested donation.

Sincerely,

Lehman Brothers

LEHMAN BROTHERS

Lehman Brothers - REDRUM
21. aug 2021 - 1. feb. 2022
Havnen & Kulturnat Vandtårnet,
Nykøbing Falster på Lolland-Falster.



Lehman Brothers – REDRUM * is a rum based on sugar beet and red beet, and produced in batches of nine bottles, each carrying an etiquette as a stock asset value starting at \$86, same value as the Lehman Brothers stock in 2007 just before the bankruptcy and the beginning of the global financial crisis in 2008.

Lehman Brothers – REDRUM is your worst night mare of a drink, a fluid sculpture in the color of blood and negative numbers – red roses in your excel account sheet and thorns in the pride of your investment portfolio. Thus moving full speed into the very negative of German Idealism, Lehman Brothers will take up competition with national state alcohol license control and produce a moonshining rum from super local Danish farmer culture.



REDRUM is an object – a fluid hyper object able to ubiquitous presence – being several places at once - going through the digestion systems of humans, crossing the borders of skin and surfaces of subjectivities through evaporation. Squared and framed in bottles of transparency, forming a modernist cube of 3x9 bottles, each with its serial numbered etiquette, carrying the stock value of \$86 in Ethereum as long as the bottle stays sealed. Thus, each REDRUM bottle is an asset of investment in the potentiality of intoxication always already in the future, exposing the eternal negative quality of accumulation of value in time.

* REDRUM a reference to Stanley Kubric's film *The Shining* from 1980, with the word MURDER written backwards.

Link til Havnen:
<https://m.facebook.com/events/frihavnen-fejøgade-2-4800-nykøbing/redrum-pop-up-event-om-rom/440672750335905/>



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LEHMAN BROTHERS

Lehman Brothers - Cerro Point Blanco

21 Aug. - 10 Okt. 2020.

Curated by
Christopher Sand-Iversen and Hugo Hopping,
SixtyEight Art Institute 2020.



*Starbucks
Leech
Vibocold
Cube*

50 x 50
x 50 cm.
2020

Cerro Point Blanco is about mining and the history of extraction in Chile, and of the progress of capitalism in Chile seen through Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick* as a framing metaphor. *Moby-Dick* is a novel inspired by the mysterious white whale 'Mocha Dick', which was said to have lived off the coast of Chile in the first half of the 19th century. The artist group sees Melville's polymathic novel as a tale pointing to the madness and downfall of capitalism, with the Great White Whale as the starting point for an exploration of the self-fulfilling drive towards self-destruction.

In the hunt for the white whale, however, Lehman Brothers have caught the scent of something even bigger in the Atacama region of northern Chile, namely the extraction of titanium, whose whiteness and properties are highly sought after. The group focuses on the American mining company White Mountain Titanium Corporation, which ran a large titanium mining project in the Atacama desert under the name Cerro Blanco, a mysterious project that went bankrupt and disappeared in 2017 despite major investors.

Kunstkritikk:

<https://kunstkritikk.dk/kald-mig-ismael/>

Idoart:

<https://www.idoart.dk/blog/tracing-extractions-with-lehman-brothers>



*Titanic Sun
Blocker X*

Installation
titanium, cactus, sunscreen
600 x 610 cm.
2020



*Titanic Sun
Blocker X*

Installation
detail:
cactus with
sunscreen.
2020



*Cerro Point
Blanco*

HD video B/W
sound extracts
from Moby
Dick
23:08 min.
2020

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Lehman Brothers - Pendulum Rising,
La Despreciada, Chile, 13.07 - 17.07 2018.

LEHMAN BROTHERS

Land art installation in desert, with two pendulums above
the double chemicals of Chiles colonial history.

Germany destroyed the chilean export of sodium nitrate in
1922, with their production of ammonia
as a fatal blow to Chiles economy.

<https://www.rotundamagazine.com/en/managing-new-displacements-from-geography-rodolfo-andaur-x-carolina-martinez/>



Pendulum Rising is part of “Managing New Displacements Of Geography”, an exploration trip arranged by curator Rodolfo Andaur, to give an in depth view on Chilean contemporary art and its relation to the landscape and its colonial history.

Lehman Brothers will present a work of land art, connecting the dialectical history of sodium nitrate and ammonium nitrate, pointing out their impact on the economies of Chile and Germany, pinpointing the use of both chemicals as explosives, and as fertilizers, and their respective formation on the colonial landscape.

The work will involve textual excerpts from the chapters On Time and On Space, in “Critique of Pure Reason” by Immanuel Kant.

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Lehman Brothers - Jumping Jack Lithuanian Flash, CENTRAS, 18-23.aug. Kaunas 2017

Since Russia invaded Lithuania in 1940, there has been a tension between Lithuania and the former communist superpower, who lately has returned in the guise of the company Gazprom.

<http://www.cntrs.lt>

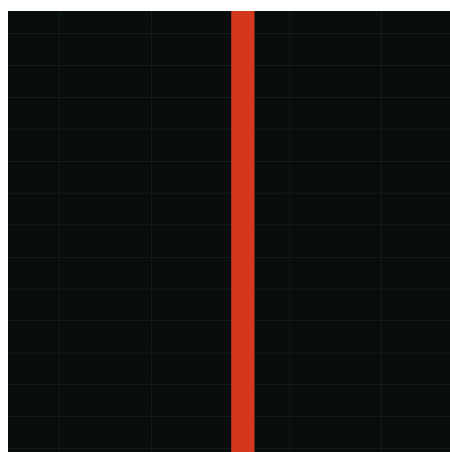
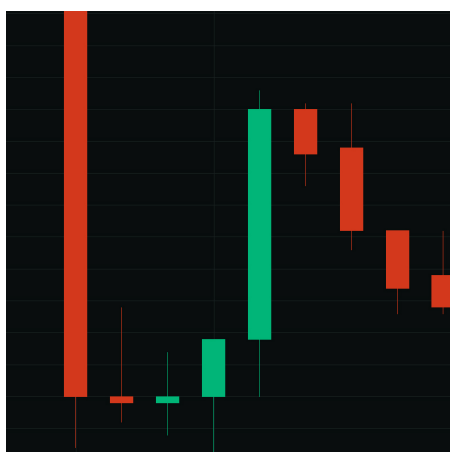


Lehman Brothers - Europium Bat for Money Laundering on Sixty Eight Art Institute 16. Juni - 15. Juli 2017.

Curated by Rodolfo Andaur

Bats are fed with doses of Europium during a period of one month. This will make their thin skin phosphorescent in UV-light. Finally the bats are photographed in free flight.

<http://www.sixtyeight.dk/laundering.html>



Lehman Brothers - Trojan Barclays Horse on INSTATATA Kunsthal Aarhus 1. Juni - 1. Juli 2017.
Curated by Jacob Fabricius

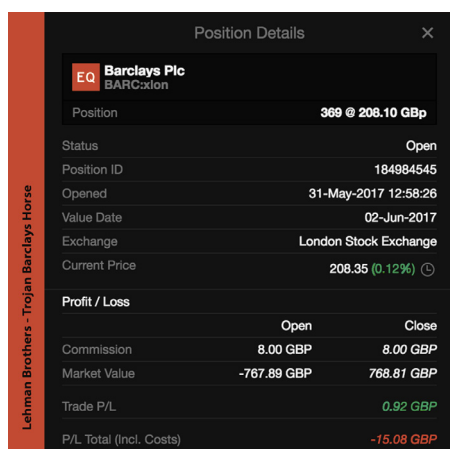
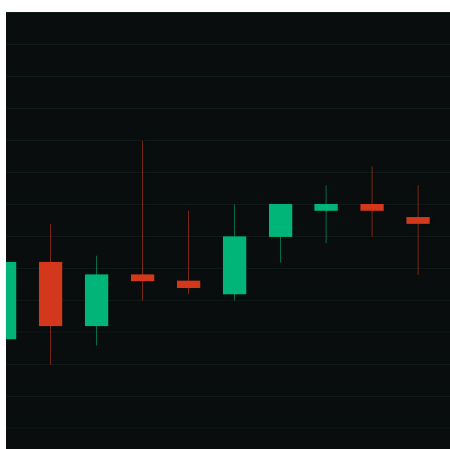
The investment bank Lehman Brothers went bankrupt in 2008 in the wake of the financial crisis. Barclays Bank bought most of the remaining assets.

In 2012 Lehman Brothers resurfaced as an artist group with the name and glamour of high risk investments but no assets in possession.

Now we claw back on the 1st of every month.

A series of photos following the share acquisitions of Barclays Bank stocks on Saxo Banks online investmentbank – Saxo Bank is Barclays financial cooperator in Denmark. We upload daily a new screenshot of Barclays share prices, so that one can follow the curve i 25 days starting from the 1. Juni og ending the 1. July.

https://www.instagram.com/instatata_kunsthal aarhus/

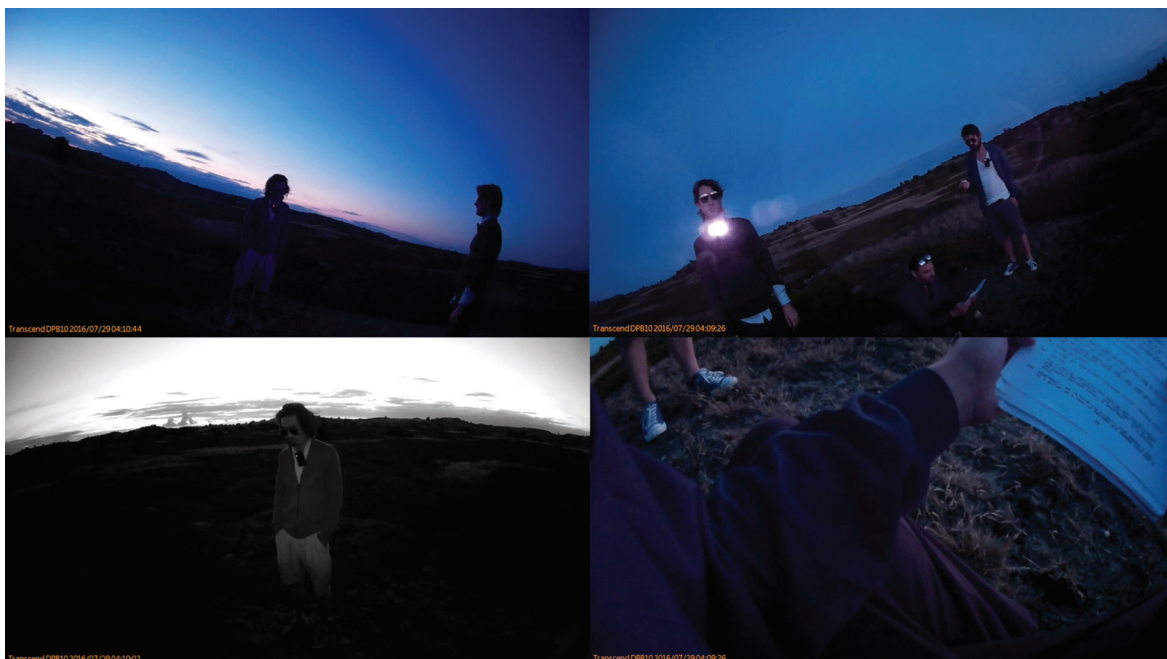


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LEHMAN BROTHERS

The Future of Law Enforcement
Screening Saturday 10. December 8.00 PM
RAT School of Art, Seoul, South Korea



Lehman Brothers - The Future of Law Enforcement

A Lehman Brothers recording of a re-enactment of the science fiction classic ROBOCOP by the Dutch director Paul Verhoeven from 1987. The video is shot on four police cameras attached to the breast located in the middle of the only Danish desert. The members of Lehman Brothers are wearing mirror sunglasses and are in consumption and under constant influence of Jack Daniel's and Camels. The result is shown on a split screen projection.

The video is the main part of the total video installation Lehman Brothers - Ballistic First Movers on OK Corral and is screened separately on RAT School of Art in Seoul, Southkorea, December 2016 and on Museo Nacional de Arte, curated by Gabriel Mestre, Mexico City, February 2017.

Lehman Brothers - The Future of Law Enforcement, HD Video 1:03:28.

ROBOCOP – The Future of Law Enforcement, screenplay by Edward Neumeyer and Michael Miner, 1986, 4.draft. Filmed by Lehman Brothers on Body Cam police-cameras in the desert on the island Anholt in 2016.

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F R E D E R I K S B E R G
K O M M U N E



LEHMAN BROTHERS



Lehman Brothers
Ballistic First Movers
OK Corral
Rolighedsvej 9 kl.
1958 Frederiksberg

Opening: 26. Aug. 2016 5.00-9.00 PM
From 27. Aug. – 17 Sept. 2016

Lehman Brothers will, through a video- installation at OK Corral during Copenhagen Art Week, greedily examine the ballistics, technology and logistics catastrophic potential - past, present and future.

Imagine how future humans, in a post-apocalyptic industrial inferior future, long for sublime, high-end mechanical force discharges, and the history of by-gone technological prowess and finesse. While we imagine this future, we recall the conquest of the North American continent as landscape, the striving towards profits and the horizon, the Frontier, which drove all the indigenous cultures into history's garbage dump, made possible by efficient logistics and mass-produced firearms - not least with mythical and theological representations through linear text.

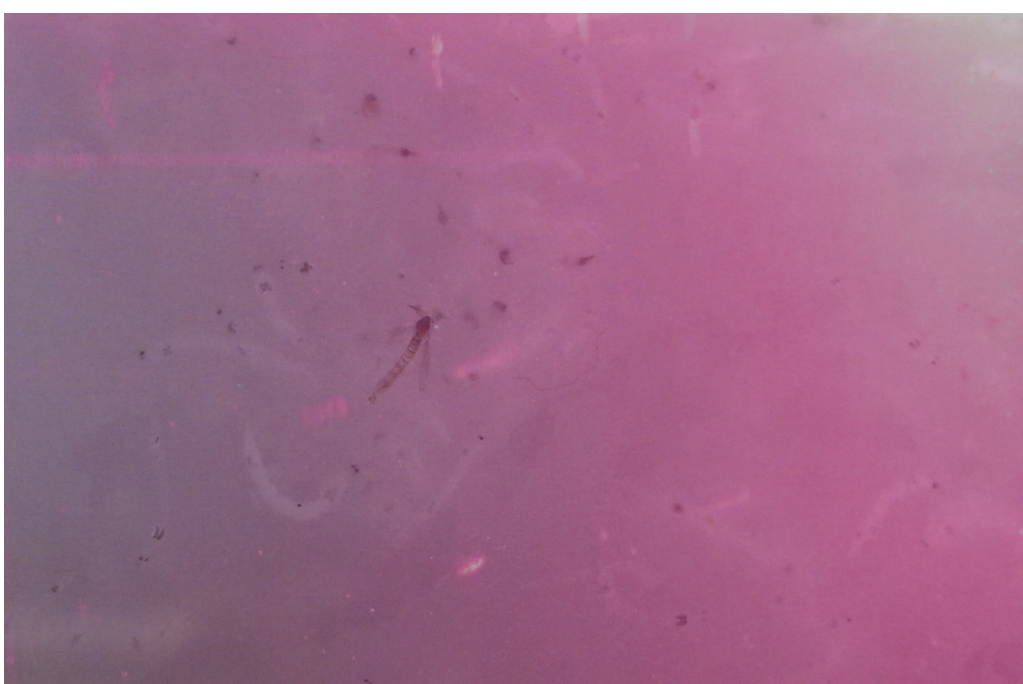
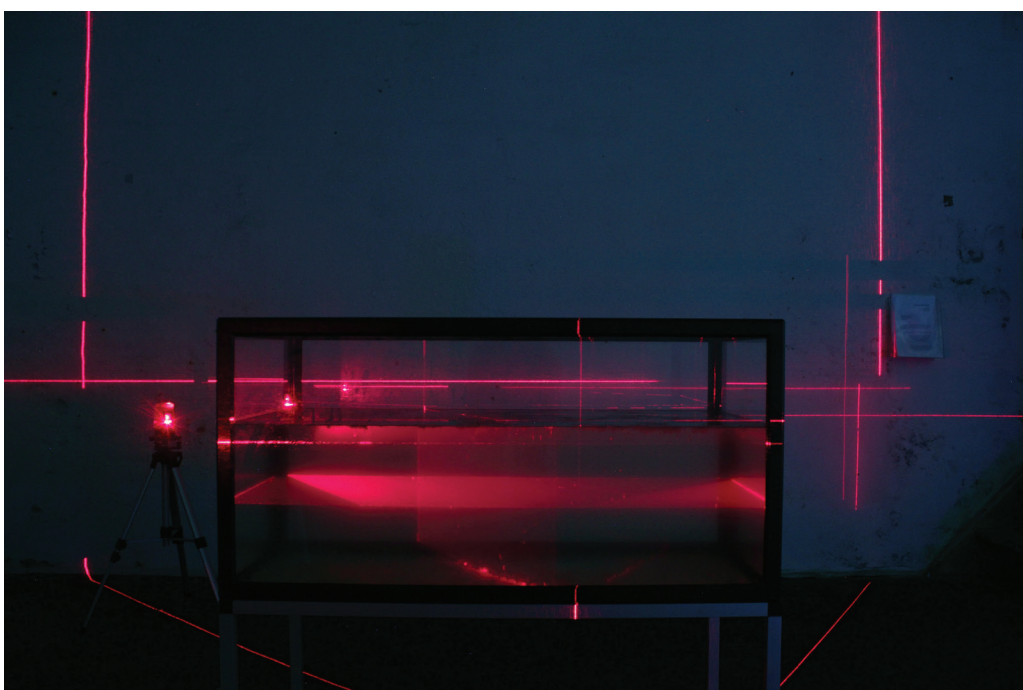
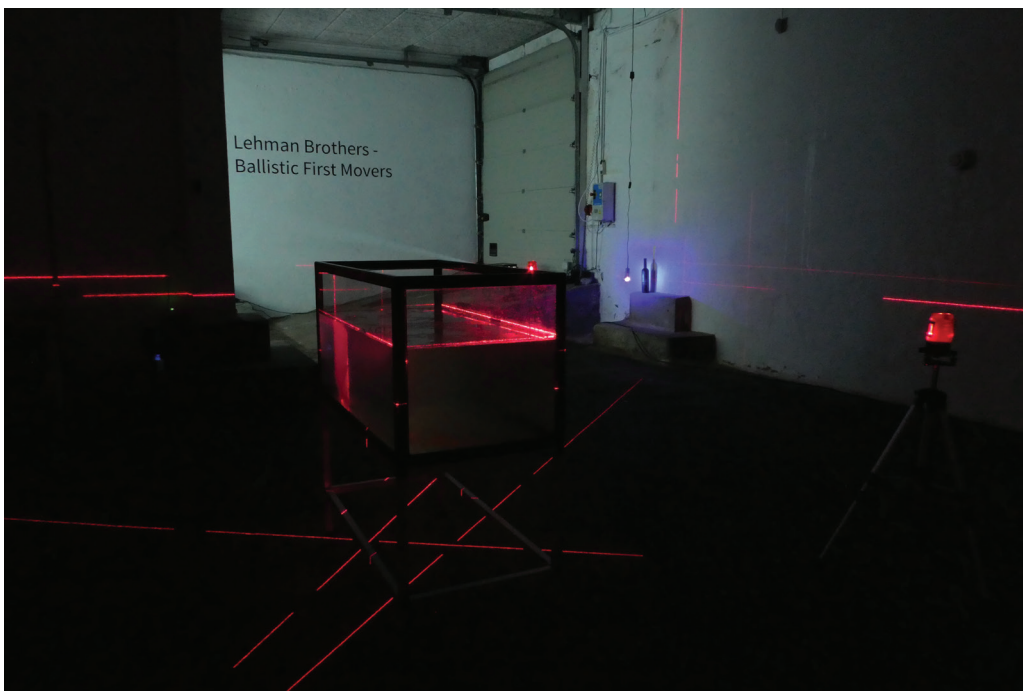
Nostalgic future scenarios and romantic western punk will embed itself into OK Corral's cellar through projection of a re-enactment of the science fiction classic ROBOCOP, and concretely in the space, by all sorts of artifacts more or less ballistic in character.

Lehman Brothers work tirelessly on the satisfaction of our own desires and the possibility of immediate profit on the lowest bottom line and at the same time opens up for the capital's most aggressive omnipresence – as juridical text, ammunition and swarm consciousness.

Ballistic First Movers was prized by the Danish Art Foundation in 2016. See link for review.

<https://www.facebook.com/kunstfond/posts/547135462162483>

<http://www.bkf.dk/web/guest/billedkunstneren>



Lehman Brothers - Ballistic First Movers,
Installationview OK Corral 2016.

LEHMAN BROTHERS



Lehman Brothers - The ROBOCOP Re-enactment, The Future of Law Enforcement, HD Video 1:03:28. Installationview and stills, OK Corral 2016.

Lehman Brothers - Ballistic First Movers is a total video installation on OK Corral, which consists of the following elements

- A Lehman Brothers recording of a re-enactment of the science fiction classic ROBOCOP by the Dutch director Paul Verhoeven from 1987. The video is shot on four police cameras attached to the breast located in the middle of the only Danish desert. The members of Lehman Brothers are wearing mirror sunglasses and are in consumption and under constant influence of Jack Daniel's and Camels. The result is shown on a split screen projection.
- A Lehman Brothers Mosquito Desert Farm will hatch hundreds of mosquitos from larvae during the exhibition period. The process in the still water aquarium and the small swarming bloodsuckers will be beautifully lightened up by blue-violet midnight light and transmitted by horizontal and vertical scarlet-red laser beams from three positioned spirit levels.
- Electrical humidifiers that vaporize and smells of Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey and Lehman Brothers Whiskey 'Ashes of Disaster' - a sponsorship from Lehman Brothers Whisky (NY), which in the years after the crash of the investment bank Lehman Brothers', started their own distillery under the same infamous name. Lehman Brothers Whiskey has just been through a longer court case about the legal rights for the name, with the British bank Barclays, who after the bankruptcy in 2008 bought major assets and the rest of the shares in the investment bank Lehman Brothers.

List of works:

Lehman Brothers - The ROBOCOP Reenactment: HD Video 1:03:28

ROBOCOP screenplay, 1986, 4.draft. Filmed on Body Cam police cameras in the desert on the island Anholt, 2016.

Lehman Brothers - Minor Ballistic Spirit Breezers: Laser spirit levels, vaporizers with Lehman Brothers / Jack Daniels whiskey, mosquito farm in aquarium with glowing light bulb.

<http://okcorral.dk/filter/past/Lehman-BrothersBallistic-first-movers>

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**F R E D E R I K S B E R G
K O M M U N E**



LEHMAN BROTHERS



Lehman Brothers
- Surfin' the Bucharest Billboards
Bucharest Biennale 7 - 26. May - 30. June 2016
Curated by Niels van Tomme

Lehman Brothers has been invited to participate in the Bucharest Biennale 7, in Romania 2016 – an extensive billboard exhibition with the title *What Are We Building Down There*, curated by Niels van Tomme (BE), De Appel, Amsterdam.

As usual, we put our own enterprise as an artist group and as a very bad worldwide brand before anything else. We seek to conquer, profit and move on. Regardless.

Inspired by bad business school and military academy readings of Deleuze, we will pop up here and there and everywhere, in a sort of lowlife sublime and rhizomatic mode - and in a fury of highly aggressive neoliberal ideals.

Here's our plan of operation.



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Lehman Bros. - Surfin' The
Bucharest Billboards,
320 x 240 cm.
The Bucharest Biennale 7,
2016.

LEHMAN BROTHERS

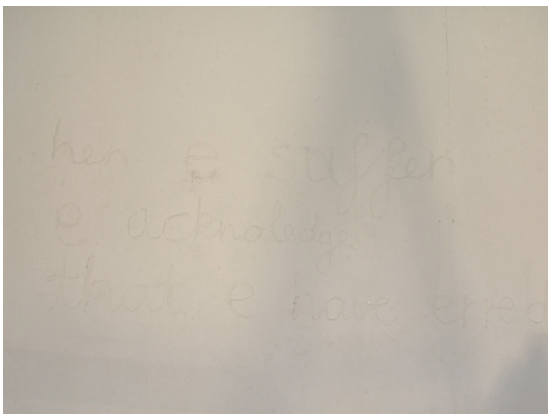
Desire and Disappearance
02.03.2012 - 24.03.2012
NLHspace,
Vesterfælledvej 63
København V.



Untitled, Glass, 1 g
cocaine, ventilator,
250 W halogenspot.



Lehman Brothers
- Desire and Disap-
pearance
Installationview.



When We Suffer We
Acknowledge We
Have Erred,
Silicone text on wall.



Untitled W



Desire is Disappear-
ance, photo.

Lehman Brothers Holding Inc. appears as an icon of the financial crisis beginning in 2008 and is now the name of the artist group Lehman Brothers.

The three Lehman brothers emigrated from Bavaria in 1844, and their activities grew from a humble textile business in Alabama through trade and export of cotton to Europe to become the fourth largest bank in the US until the petition for bankruptcy in 2008.

On the conceptual level Lehman Brothers Holding Inc.'s fate reflects a spectacular element of the economy's built in fictivity, which appears to be similar to arts value in its virtuality.

Concepts such as desire and disappearance are the key words for the abstract level of the exhibition, and also functions as a reference to NLHspaces small size and seductive show room where 1 g of pure cocaine is spread by ventilator 1 time per hour during the opening.

The exhibition works with the crisis' starting point in desire and seek to strip Lehman Brothers for their sudden demise and explore the anatomy of disappearance through video, audio, photography and as performative action in a public space.

<http://www.nlhspace.dk/2012/02/lehman-brothers-desire-and-disappearance/>

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